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AREA 88

by KAORU SHINTANI

13

BIWEEKLY

As He Flies Alone Through the Burning Sky, Will Shin Choose to Betray Saki and Area 88?

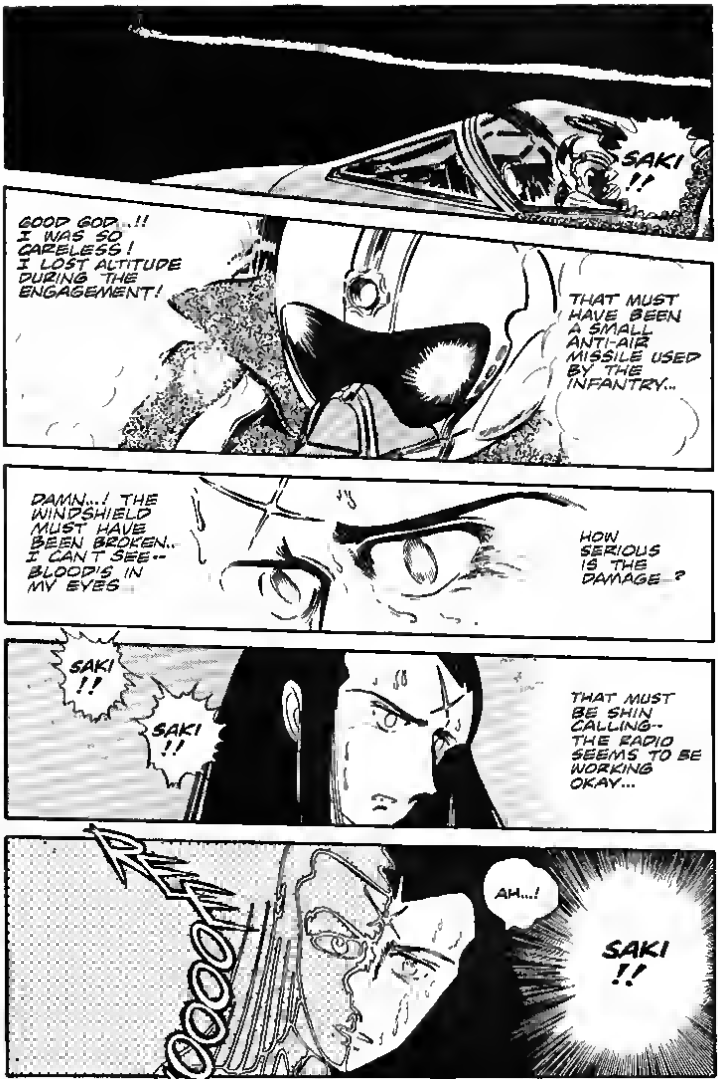
VIZ COMICS

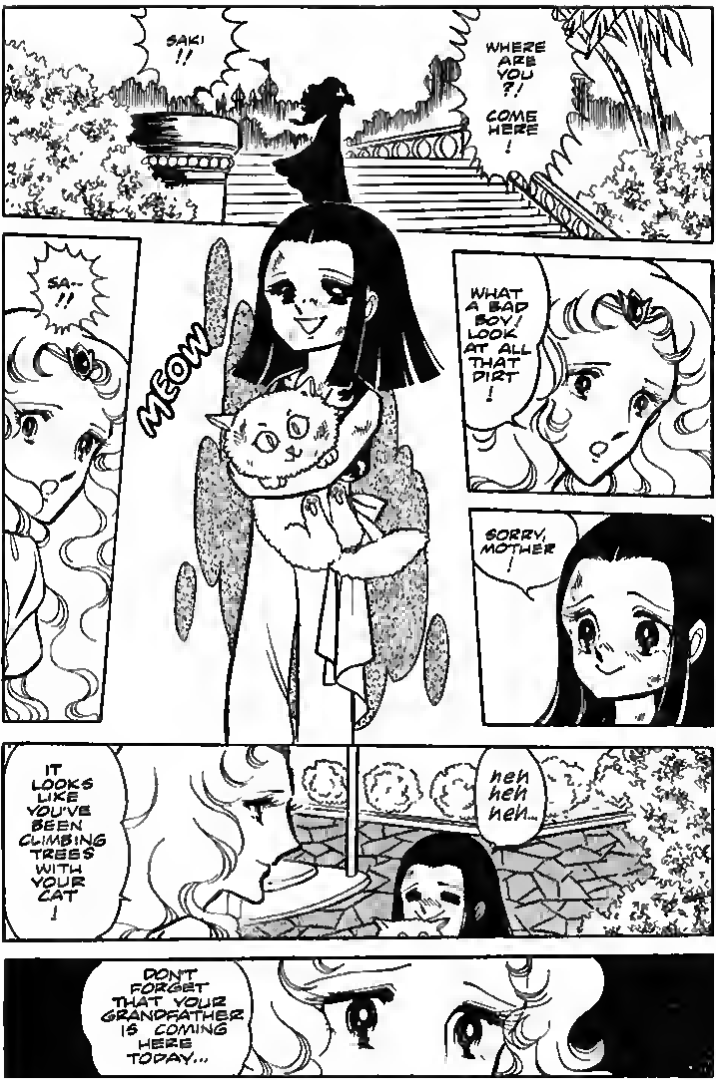
MISSION 13: An ANGEL in CAMOUFLAGE

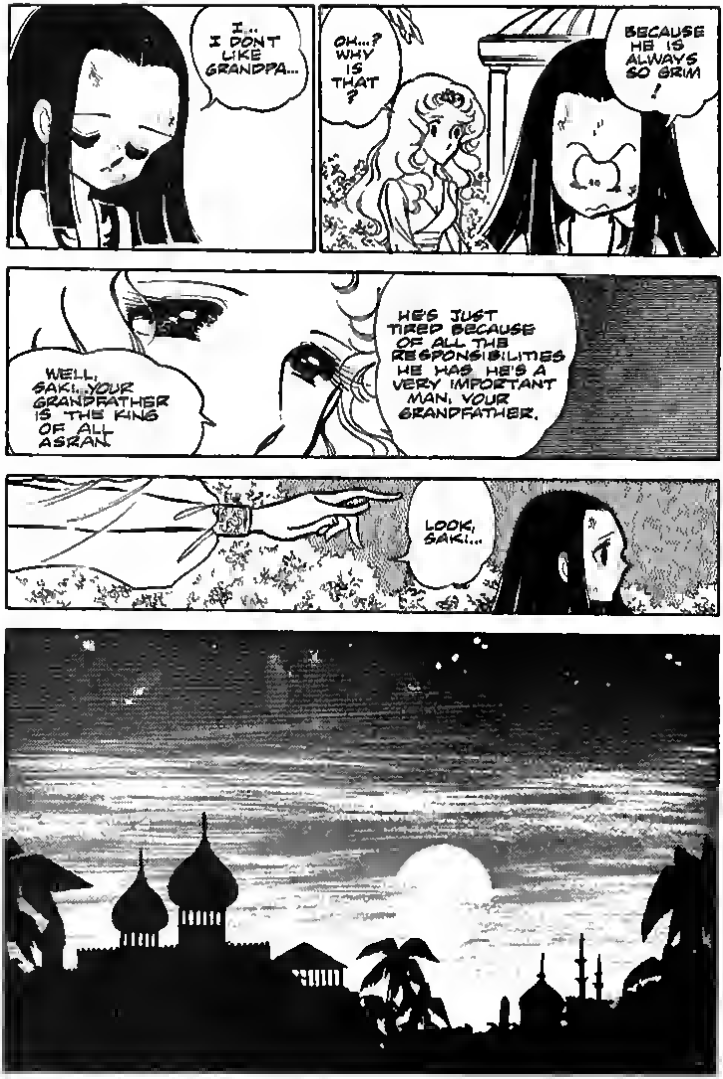
SCANNED BY HIKARU

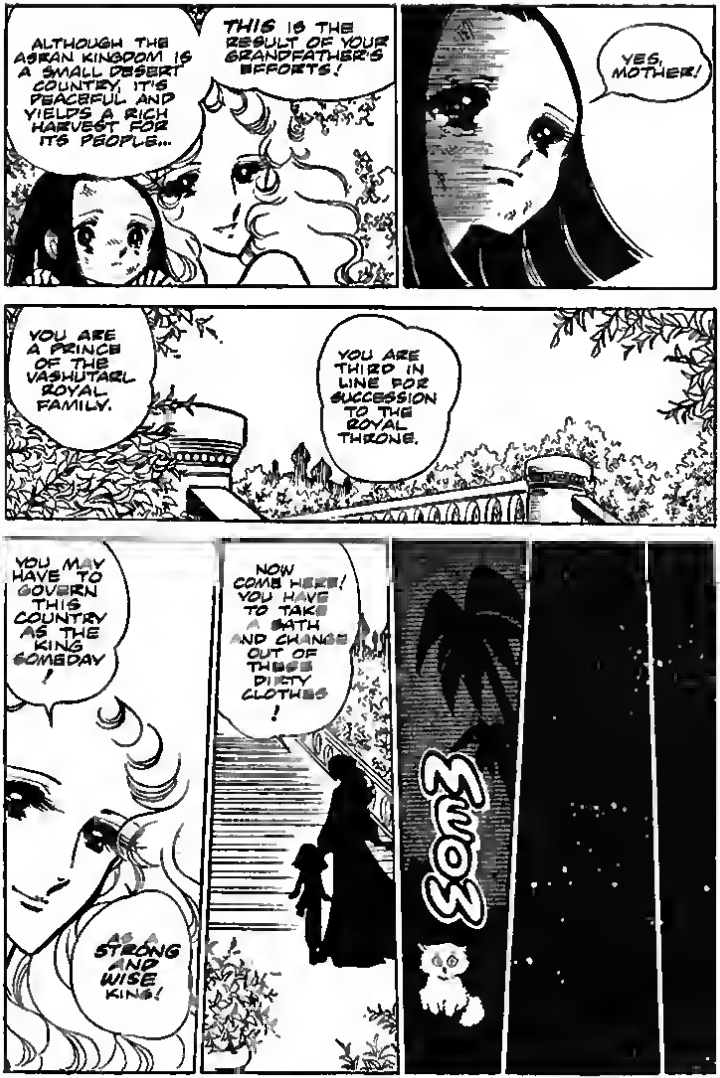
BA-KOOOOM

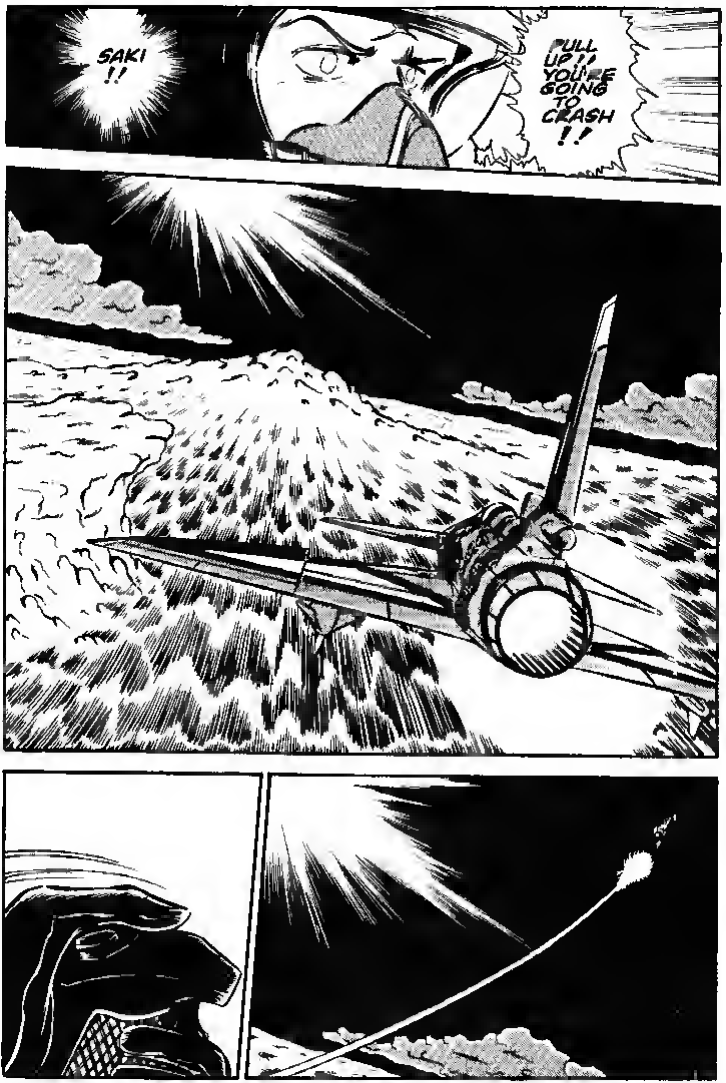
IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR MICK'S FORMATION TO REACH THEIR TARGETS.
UNFORTUNATELY, THE WOLVES ARE PROBABLY TOO CLEVER TO BE TRICKED BY THIS DECOY OPERATION
AFTER ALL, THE REAL WOLF PACK DIDN'T SHOW UP FOR OUR ENGAGEMENT.
THAT INEXPERIENCED PILOT WAS NO MERCENARY!
KABOOM
CAUTION
MISSILE'S APPROACHING!

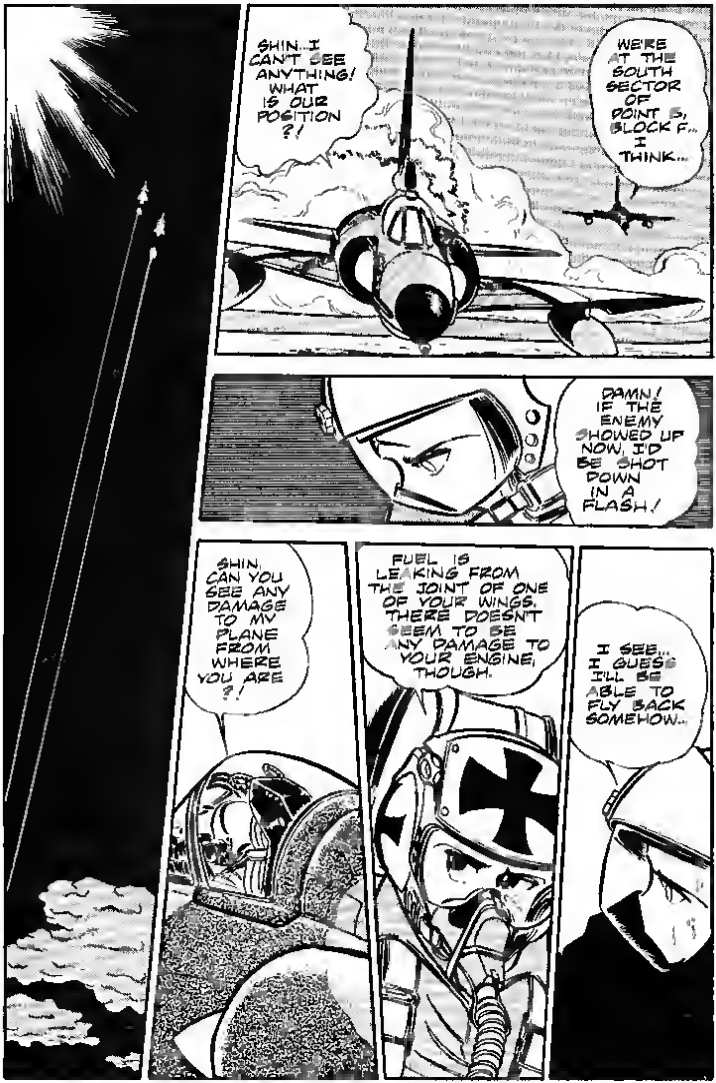

SAKI !!
GOOD GOD..!! I WAS SO CARELESS! I LOST ALTITUDE DURING THE ENGAGEMENT!
THAT MUST HAVE BEEN A SMALL ANTI-AIR MISSILE USED BY THE INFANTRY..
DAMN...! THE WINDSHIELD MUST HAVE BEEN BROKEN.. I CAN'T SEE-- BLOOD'S IN MY EYES
HOW SERIOUS IS THE DAMAGE ?
SAKI !!
SAKI !!
THAT MUST BE SHIN CALLING-- THE RADIO SEEMS TO BE WORKING OKAY...
BUYOOOO
AH...!
SAKI !!


SAKI !!
WHERE ARE YOU ?! COME HERE !
SA-- !!
MEOW
WHAT A BAD BOY! LOOK AT ALL THAT DIRT !
SORRY, MOTHER !
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE BEEN CLIMBING TREES WITH YOUR CAT !
heh heh heh...
DON'T FORGET THAT YOUR GRANDFATHER IS COMING HERE TODAY...


I... I DON'T LIKE GRANDPA...
OH...? WHY IS THAT?
BECAUSE HE IS ALWAYS SO GRIM!
WELL, SAKI, YOUR GRANDFATHER IS THE KING OF ALL ASRAN.
HE'S JUST TIRED BECAUSE OF ALL THE RESPONSIBILITIES HE HAS. HE'S A VERY IMPORTANT MAN, YOUR GRANDFATHER.
LOOK, SAKI...


ALTHOUGH THE ASRAN KINGDOM IS A SMALL DESERT COUNTRY, IT'S PEACEFUL AND YIELDS A RICH HARVEST FOR ITS PEOPLE...
THIS IS THE RESULT OF YOUR GRANDFATHER'S EFFORTS!
YES, MOTHER!
YOU ARE A PRINCE OF THE VASHUTARL ROYAL FAMILY.
YOU ARE THIRD IN LINE FOR SUCCESSION TO THE ROYAL THRONE.
YOU MAY HAVE TO GOVERN THIS COUNTRY AS THE KING SOMEDAY!
AS A STRONG AND WISE KING!
NOW COME HERE! YOU HAVE TO TAKE A BATH AND CHANGE OUT OF THESE DIRTY CLOTHES!
SOM3


SAKI !!
PULL UP!! YOU'RE GOING TO CRASH !!


SHIN...I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING! WHAT IS OUR POSITION ?!
WE'RE AT THE SOUTH SECTOR OF POINT 5, BLOCK F... I THINK...
DAMN! IF THE ENEMY SHOWED UP NOW, I'D BE SHOT DOWN IN A FLASH!
SHIN, CAN YOU SEE ANY DAMAGE TO MY PLANE FROM WHERE YOU ARE ?!
FUEL IS LEAKING FROM THE JOINT OF ONE OF YOUR WINGS. THERE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ANY DAMAGE TO YOUR ENGINE, THOUGH.
I SEE... I GUESS I'LL BE ABLE TO FLY BACK SOMEHOW...

I CAN SEE THE MEDITER-RANEAN ON THE LEFT...
WE'LL BE BACK TO BASE SOON, SAK!
!
THE MEDITER-RANEAN SEA... EUROPE IS JUST ON THE OTHER SIDE OF IT...
AAOOOOM
SAK! CAN'T SEE ANYTHING... IF HE CONTINUES TO FLY STRAIGHT AHEAD, HE'LL CRASH BEFORE HE GETS TO THE BASE...
AND BECAUSE OF OUR PRESENT POSITION, ASEAN'S RADAR MUST NOT BE PICKING US UP YET...
...SHIN... WHAT ARE YOU THINKING...?!

MOTHER... DON'T DIE... MOTHER...
WHAT...?!
SAKI..
MOTHER ! MOTHER !!
SAKI, THIS IS YOUR NEW BROTHER! YOUR MOTHER GAVE HER LIFE TO BRING HIM INTO THE WORLD.
WAAAHHHH
WAAAHHHH
MY BROTHER.... MOTHER DIED FOR YOU...
WHAT A TRAGEDY...

RISHA!!
GAK!!
HA HA HA--
HOW'VE YOU BEEN?!
FINE! I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU'RE WELL, TOO!
PLEASE TELL ME ABOUT LONDON AGAIN!
IT'S THE SAME AS ALWAYS. YOU CAN GO THERE YOURSELF IN A COUPLE OF YEARS!
MY LIFE IN THE BOARDING SCHOOL WILL BE OVER NEXT YEAR. I'LL BE MOVING INTO A FLAT WHEN I ENTER COLLEGE!
AIRPORT
THEN, TWO YEARS LATER, YOU'LL COME TO LONDON FOR YOUR SCHOOLING AND WE'LL HAVE A TOAST IN A BRITISH PUB!
SO, HOW'S FATHER BEEN?
WHAT'S HAPPENED?!

HE'S NOT BEEN GETTING ALONG WITH UNCLE ZAK RECENTLY...
WELL, THEY'RE BROTHERS... AND THEY HAVE SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT IDEAS.
HOW ARE THEIR IDEAS DIFFERENT?
IT MAY BE TOO DIFFICULT FOR YOU TO UNDERSTAND, BUT...
WELL, BOTH OF THEM ARE TRYING TO IMPROVE THE COUNTRY'S WEALTH IN THEIR OWN WAY...
OUR FATHER IS TRYING TO MAKE OIL ASRAN'S BIGGEST EXPORT, TAKING OUR POSITION IN THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMY INTO CONSIDERATION.
UNCLE ZAK WAS IN FAVOR OF THIS IDEA AT FIRST...BUT HE DOESN'T LIKE FOREIGN CORPORATIONS COMING HERE TO DEVELOP THE COUNTRY...
I DON'T UNDERSTAND THIS TOO WELL...
UNCLE ZAK DOESN'T WANT TO ASK HELP FROM OTHER PEOPLE.
HE'S A CONSERVATIVE!
I SEE...

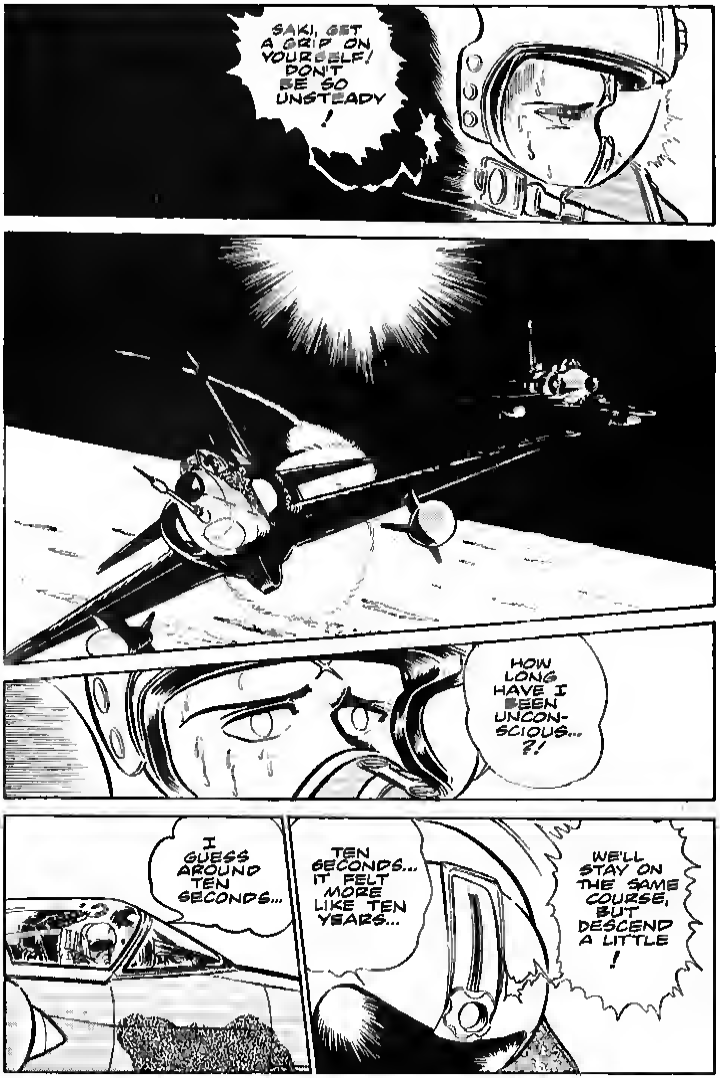
PRINCE SAKI !
HOW HAVE YOU BEEN...? I BOUGHT A NICE PRESENT FOR YOU IN LONDON
IT'S NOT THE TIME TO TALK OF SUCH THINGS! I'VE RECEIVED AN EMERGENCY CALL FROM THE PALACE!
WHAT? GRANDFATHER COLLAPSED?!
DAD !!

OH.. SAKI, YOU'RE BACK !
UNCLE ZAK...
WHERE'S MY FATHER ?!
HE IS IN THE ROOM OF HIS MAJESTY...
HOW IS GRANDFATHER ?!
THE DOCTORS HAVE TOLD US THAT HE IS IN CRITICAL CONDITION...
THE ISSUE NOW IS WHO WILL NEXT RULE THE KINGDOM YOUR ELDER BROTHER, ABDAEL, OR YOU... IN THE EVENT THAT HIS MAJESTY PASSES AWAY.
MINISTER KIM!
I DON'T CARE ABOUT SUCH MATTERS RIGHT NOW! HE MAY BE THE KING, BUT HE IS ALSO MY FATHER!
WHERE IS THERE A SON WHO DOES NOT WISH HIS FATHER A LONG LIFE ?!
ALL I CAN DO NOW.. IS PRAY TO ALLAH...

ABDAEL... ZAK... COME HERE...
YES, SIR...
SHHHH
ZAKI...
I GUESS... I HAVE LIVED TOO LONG NOW... IT IS TIME FOR ME TO TAKE MY FINAL REST...
ZAK... YOU SHALL BE THE NEXT KING OF AGRAN...
PARDON ?!
.....!!
.....!!

ABDAEL... PLEASE HELP ZAK...USE YOUR DIPLOMATIC SKILLS TO THE UTMOST...
FATHER !!
.....
SAKI...
THE KING HAS PASSED AWAY !!
THE KING HAS PASSED AWAY !!
GONNNG
GONNNG
GONNNG

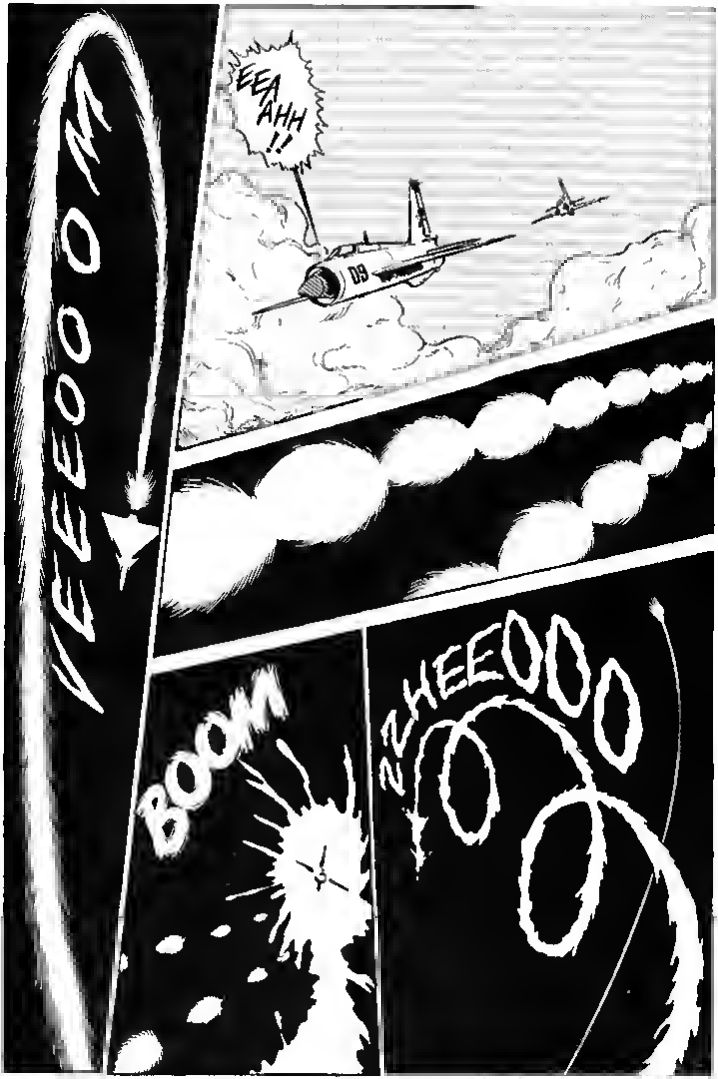
PASSENGERS OF FLIGHT 234 TO LONDON VIA PARIS, PLEASE BOARD THE PLANE AT GATE NINE!
THERE HAS BEEN A CHANGE IN THE ARRIVAL TIME OF FLIGHT 127 FROM PARIS!
PARIS
WELL... I HAVE TO GO NOW, UNCLE ZAK-- I MEAN, YOUR MAJESTY...
THAT'S ALL RIGHT, SAKI... YOU CAN STILL CALL ME UNCLE ZAK. YOU'VE BEEN DOING IT SINCE YOU WERE A KID.
PLEASE TAKE GOOD CARE OF MY FATHER...
DON'T WORRY... GIVEN TIME, I'M SURE WE'LL GROW TO UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER.
TAKE CARE, SAKI. STUDY HARD AND GET GOOD GRADES, OKAY...?
AND WHEN YOU GET TO SCHOOL, PLEASE TELL YOUR PRINCIPAL TO VISIT OUR COUNTRY SOMETIME...
EXIT
I WILL TELL HIM, YOUR MAJESTY...
JUST CALL ME UNCLE ZAK.
YES, UNCLE ZAK...
DON'T DRINK ANY BAD WATER!
AND STAY AWAY FROM BAD GIRLS, TOO!


SAKI, GET A GRIP ON YOURSELF! DON'T BE SO UNSTEADY!
HOW LONG HAVE I BEEN UNCONSCIOUS...?!
I GUESS AROUND TEN SECONDS...
TEN SECONDS... IT FELT MORE LIKE TEN YEARS...
WE'LL STAY ON THE SAME COURSE, BUT DESCEND A LITTLE!

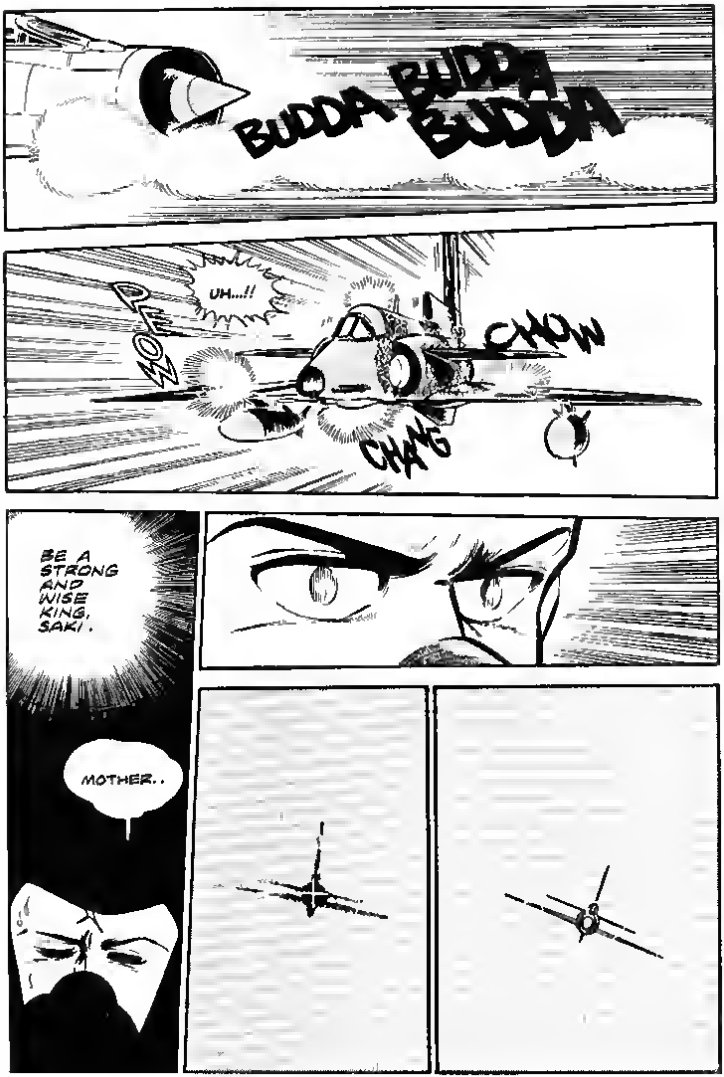
WHAT'S THE MATTER, SHIN! IS IT THE ENEMY?!
DAMN!! THEY'RE COMING!
SAKI, MAINTAIN YOUR PRESENT ALTITUDE AND HEADING!
I'LL DEAL WITH THEM!!
FAROOOOM
SHIN!!
HOW MANY PLANES DO THEY HAVE?!

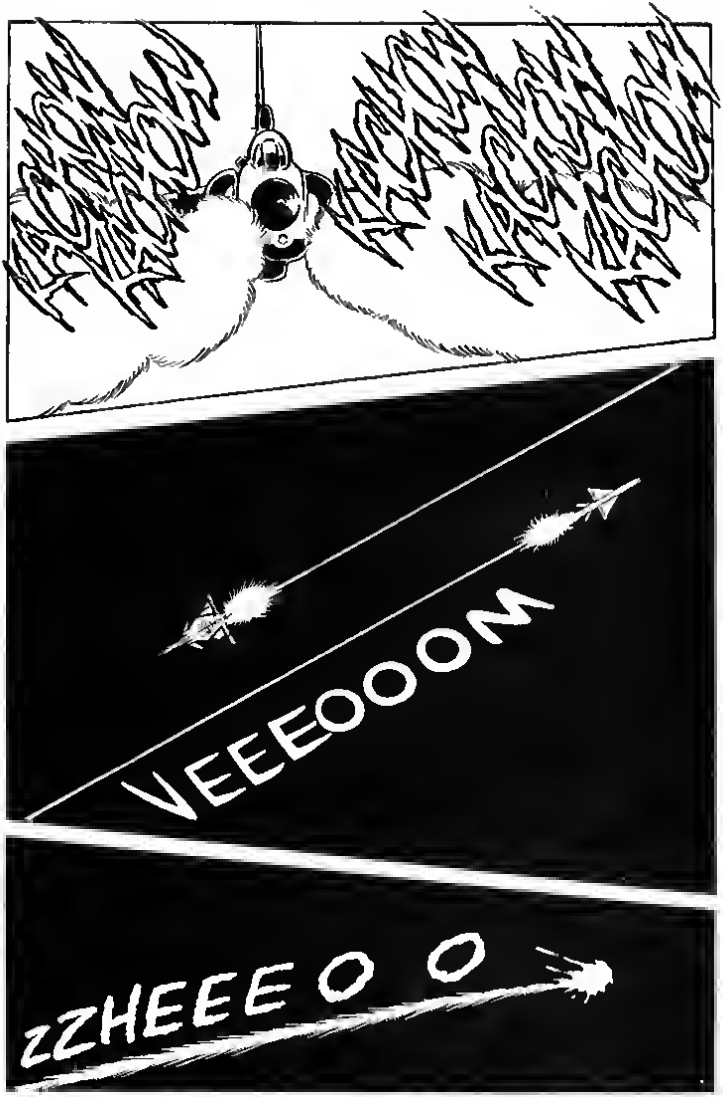
VAROOOM
DEEEP
DEEEP
THREE PLANES. IF I TAKE MY TIME, SAKI WILL BE SHOT DOWN...
BUT SINCE THEY HAVEN'T FIRED ANY MISSILES, THEY MUST BE RETURNING FROM AN ATTACK.
IF IT'S A DOG FIGHT, I'LL HAVE THE ADVANTAGE...
SHAROOOM

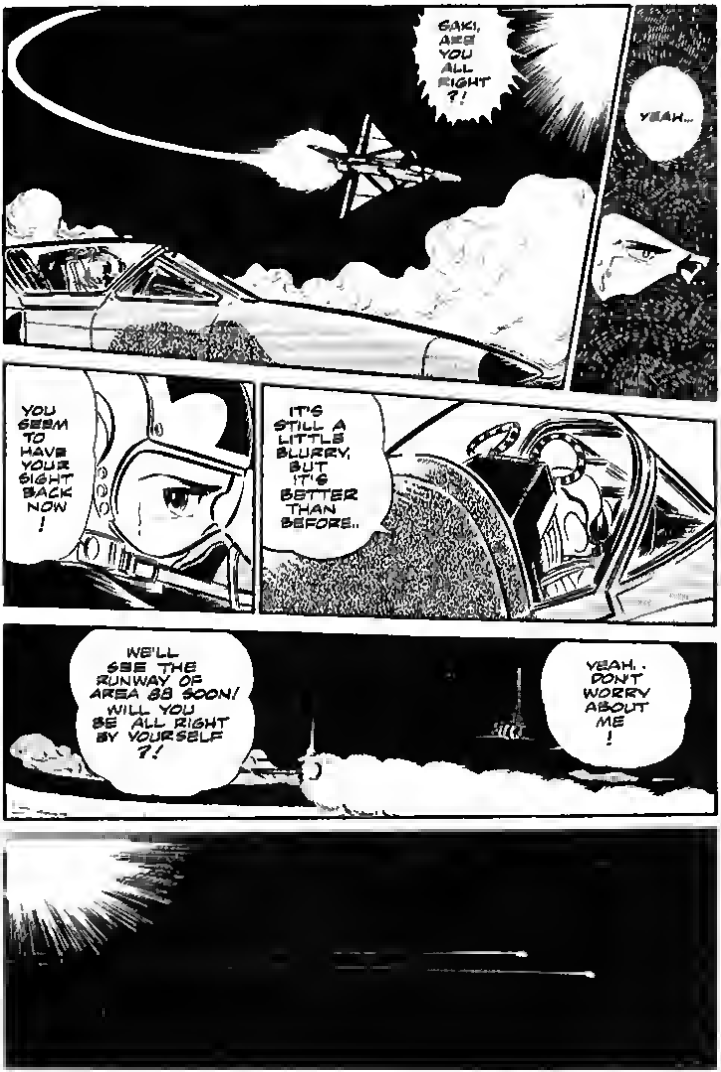
BEEP
CHACK
BUDDA BUDDA
BUDDA
BUDDA BUDDA
BOOM!
THERE GOES NUMBER ONE!


EEEOOOM
EEA AHH !!
09
BOOM
ZZHEEOOO

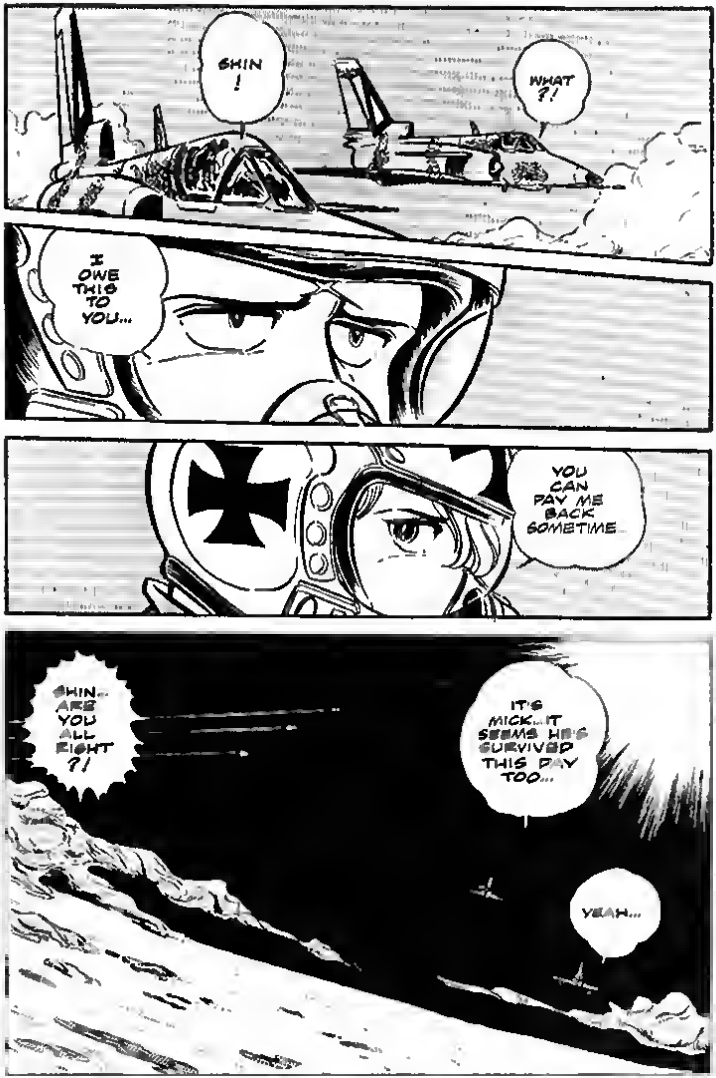
ONE MORE TO GO !
WHAT--?!
SHEEEOOM
SAKI!
A BANDIT IS COMING AT YOU HEAD ON !!
BREAK LEFT !! NOW !!
FAAOOOM
SHEEEEOM
SAKI !! MOVE !!

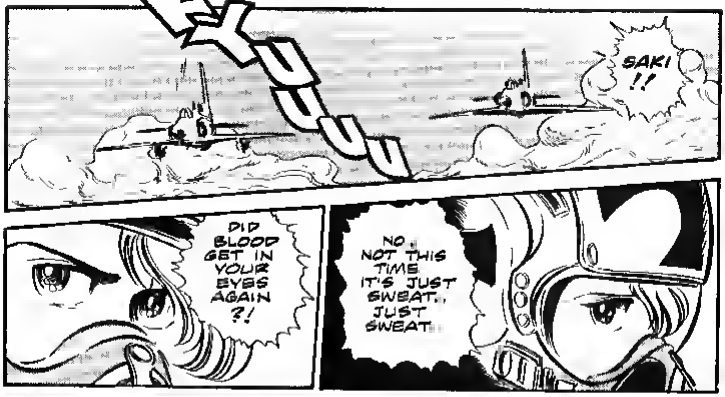

BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA
UH...!!
CHOW
CHANG
BE A STRONG AND WISE KING, SAKI.
MOTHER..


THOUGH THE ARROW FLIES FAST, THE BOLT OF LIGHTNING IS FASTER
VEEEOOOM
zZHEEEE O O


SAKI, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT ?!
YEAH..
YOU SEEM TO HAVE YOUR SIGHT BACK NOW !
IT'S STILL A LITTLE BLURRY, BUT IT'S BETTER THAN BEFORE..
WE'LL SEE THE RUNWAY OF AREA 88 SOON! WILL YOU BE ALL RIGHT BY YOURSELF ?!
YEAH.. DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME !

DID I SAY ANYTHING WHEN I WAS DELIRIOUS?
NO... I COULDN'T HEAR ANYTHING-- RADIO INTERFERENCE.
WHY? DID YOU SAY SOMETHING?
NO... NOTHING IN PARTICULAR
I JUST HAD A DREAM FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A LONG WHILE..
IF YOU HAD ABANDONED ME, YOU COULD HAVE GONE STRAIGHT TO EUROPE
WHY DIDN'T YOU?
I'M TIRED OF BETRAYAL OF BEING BETRAYED AND BETRAYING OTHERS...


SHIN!
WHAT?!
I OWE THIS TO YOU...
YOU CAN PAY ME BACK SOMETIME...
SHIN... ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
IT'S MICK... IT SEEMS HE'S SURVIVED THIS DAY TOO...
YEAH...



THE SOUNDS OF MEN'S SHOUTS ARE ABSORBED INTO THE DRY SANDS...

WHAT WILL LEAD THEIR SOULS INTO THE AFTERLIFE. A GODDESS IN WHITE, OR A DEVIL IN BLACK...?

THIS IS AREA 88.

THE SKY WHERE THE ANGELS HAVE CAMOUFLAGED WINGS...